PARKING COMMITTEE MEETING 9:00 AM –Thursday, November 10, 2005 City Hall – Conference Room A

I. <u>CALL TO ORDER</u>:

Chairman John Hynes called the meeting to order at approximately 9:20 a.m. and turned the meeting over to Steve Parkinson.

II. <u>ROLL CALL</u>

Members Present:Councilor John Hynes, Chairman
John P. Bohenko, City Manager
Steve Parkinson, Public Works Director
Deputy Police Chief Dave Young
Andrew Purgiel

III. <u>ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES</u>:

Motion made by Andrew Purgiel to accept the minutes of the October 13, 2005 meeting. Seconded by Deputy Police Chief Dave Young. Motion passed.

IV. OLD BUSINESS:

(A) Municipal Parking Lots, length of vehicles - report back - Steve Parkinson reported that he spoke with the Legal Department and City Attorney Bob Sullivan stated he did not see a problem with us designating the length of vehicles allowed within the parking lots themselves. Discussed various ways of doing this and agreed the appropriate way is to designate a certain length of vehicle, typically something that would fit within the standard parking space length and vehicles over that length are not allowed. All spaces are typically the same length other than those designated for compact cars. Most surface lots are all uniform. We would like to designate a length of vehicle that is allowed and post the lots accordingly. Vehicles that take up two spaces such as large motor homes, flatbed trucks, etc will not be allowed. Deputy Police Chief Dave Young stated there are problems at the Parrott Ave. lot where large motor homes take up more than one space and/or jut out into the alley of the travel lane. Appropriate signage will be placed at all entrances to surface lots. Steve will speak further with Attorney Sullivan, this may be done as a trial for next year's Omnibus, but be instituted now.

MOTION made by Deputy Police Chief Young to post the parking lots for a specified length of vehicle precluding the larger mobile homes. Seconded by John Hynes. Motion Passed. (B) Review of Parking Study Technical Report #3 (attached) – This study has been going on for the last year, specifically dealing with parking, parking assets, what we have for parking, what is going on with parking, how many spaces available. Refers to residential permit parking programs which we see a need for especially in the residential areas that abut central businesses. All day parkers are spilling into the residential neighborhoods such as McDonough St. neighborhood, Middle/Islington, and into the South End. We need to further look into residential parking permits, there are a number of issues involved, how to deal with visitors, passes for them, otherwise those vehicles would not have a permit to park there. Suggested tabling this to next month so everyone has a chance to look at this, come back at the next meeting with ideas of potentially how permit parking could work for us, issues and pitfalls we may have.

MOTION made by John Hynes to table this until next month. Seconded by Deputy Chief Young. Motion passed.

V. NEW BUSINESS:

(A) Hanover Street - Cathartes Private Investments - Harbour Hill -Commercial Condominium Request for three 15-minute parking spaces immediately outside unit (letter attached) - two individual requests for 15minute parking spaces on Hanover St. Steve Parkinson distributed two drawings of the existing parking in the area of Hanover St. from Fleet St. to an area up beyond the entrance of the parking garage. One of the drawings have colored spaces on it. The pink denotes spaces that are going to be eliminated as part of the streetscape improvement program and bus loading area that will be the transfer facility made on the parking garage side. Green spaces are additional spaces added in this process. Cathartes Private Investments are developers of the Hilton Garden Inn and associated condominiums next door. They have requested to have three 15-minute parking spaces for general business purposes on Hanover St. in area of condominium side of the development. Retail space is being proposed and constructed as part of the condominium. Those as well will be commercial condominiums and expressed the need for three 15-minute parking spaces for general business purposes.

City Manager suggested tabling this request until we see what type of retail is going in there. Once in there may have a different need. This is premature as the Parking Committee making these changes is to try for a year and then include in the Omnibus. Suggested tabling this until 30 days prior to hotel opening and then determine what certain needs they have and have them come in and talk with us. City Manager suggested sending them a letter stating this has been tabled until 30 days prior to the estimated opening of the hotel, advise us the date and have them come before the Committee. **MOTION** made by John Hynes to table this until 30 days prior to the hotel opening, determine their needs and have them come before this Committee. Seconded by Deputy Police Chief Young. Motion passed.

(B) Hanover Street – The Juicery – Request for 15-minute parking space – Kenneth Doiron is here from the Juicery and Darlene Inks of Mainely Gourmet Chocolate. Ken informed the Committee they are a take out establishment, people from surrounding communities come into town to our place. They say they would have been there the day before but could not find a parking space. The parking garage is directly across the street and wondered why four or five spaces couldn't be 15-minute parking. We have lost so many spaces from the building of the hotel, people don't have a place to park and as a take out they are not willing to go into the parking garage.

The Committee agreed with City Manager this was a valid request and recommended two spaces be changed to 15-minute spaces. It was decided that the first two spaces from High Street be designated as 15-minute spaces. Also suggested looking at this in another few months.

MOTION made by City Manager to create two 15-minute spaces, the two spaces from High Street on Hanover Street towards Market Street. Seconded by Deputy Police Chief Young. Motion passed.

City Manager asked them to please keep us advised, it will be helpful to see how these two spaces work out.

VI. <u>ADJOURNMENT</u>: Adjourned at approx. 9:45

Respectfully submitted

Elaine E. Boucas, Secretary